

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-01 EA-07 USIE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /052 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:GHAMKLTON/HFO
APPROVED BY AF/C:TBUCHANAN
-----120352Z 031141 /72-62

O R 120333Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM ROUTINE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG

SUBJECT:CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE - ZAIRE - APRIL 11

1. PARAS 2 - 10 CONTAIN PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR
APRIL 11 BRIEFING FOR USE ONLY IF ASKED:

2. Q: DID THE FRENCH CONSULT WITH US BEFORE MAKING THE
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DECISION TO PROVIDE LOGISTICAL AIR SUPPORT TO ZAIRE?

A: WE HAVE SAID BEFORE THAT WE EXCHANGE VIEWS ON A
CONTINUING BASIS WITH OUR ALLIES, INCLUDING THE ZAIRIAN
SITUATION. I DO NOT WISH TO GO BEYOND THAT STATEMENT.

3. Q: DO YOU KNOW IF THE MOROCCAN TROOPS ARE ARMED WITH

U.S. WEAPONS? IF SO, IS THIS NOT A VIOLATION OF TERMS
OF THEIR SALE?

A. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THE MOROCCANS ARE USING
NO U.S. ORIGIN ARMAMENTS IN ZAIRE.

4. Q: DO WE HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON CHINESE OR
EGYPTIAN ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE?

A. WE HAVE SEEN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES CONCERNING POSSIBLE
ASSISTANCE BY EGYPT AND CHINA, BUT THAT IS ALL.

5. Q: HAS THERE BEEN ANY DECISION ON ZAIRE'S REQUEST
FOR FURTHER AID?

A: THE ZAIRIAN REQUEST IS STILL BEING CAREFULLY STUDIED.

6. Q: IS THE C.I.A. RECRUITING MERCENARIES FOR USE IN
ZAIRE AGAINST THE FORCE INVADING SHABA PROVINCE?

A: THE UNITED STATES HAS STATED REPEATEDLY THAT THE
RECRUITMENT OF MERCENARIES IN THE U.S. IS ILLEGAL, AND
THE C.I.A. IS NOT INVOLVED IN ANY SUCH ACTIVITIES.

7. Q: DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON
JOHN STOCKWELL'S RESIGNATION LETTER AS PUBLISHED IN THE
WASHINGTON POST?

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A: THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE
ACTIVITIES, REAL OR PURPORTED.

8. Q: THERE ARE REPORTS CARRIED IN THE WASHINGTON POST
THAT A SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY OFFICIAL HAS VISITED
KINSHASA TO DISCUSS ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE. ARE THESE
REPORTS ACCURATE?

A: WE DO NOT HAVE DIRECT KNOWLEDGE AS TO WHETHER SUCH
A VISIT TOOK PLACE.

9. Q: IS THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDING
ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE?

A: WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH ASSISTANCE.

10. Q: DOES THE REPORTED ZAIRIAN DECISION TO ACCEPT AID
FROM SOUTH AFRICA AFFECT OUR VIEW OF ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE?

A: WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF ANY SUCH DECISION;
THEREFORE THE QUESTION IS HYPOTHETICAL AND WE CANNOT
COMMENT UPON IT.

11. THE FOLLOWING QUESTION WAS TAKEN DURING THE APRIL 11
DEPT BRIEFING, "WAS THE U.S. INFORMED BEFOREHAND OF THE
FRENCH ACTION IN AIRLIFTING SUPPLIES TO ZAIRE?" THE
REPLY: "WHILE THE FRENCH DID NOT CONSULT WITH US ABOUT THIS
DECISION, THEY DID INFORM US BEFOREHAND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE081357
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GHAMKLTON/HFO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770125-1176
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770465/aaaaceol.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 973bbda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2831032
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE - ZAIRE - APRIL 11
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, AO, CG
To: KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/973bbda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009